### Divisions of Boating and Waterways, Historic Preservation and Off-Highway Vehicles

# News Release



For Immediate Release December 19, 2014

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## California State Parks Seek Input Regarding Columbia Retail Concessions in Tuolumne County

COLUMBIA, Calif.--California State Parks will be hosting a public input meeting regarding two retail concessions located in <u>Columbia State Historic Park</u> on <u>Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., at Eagle Cottage, 11195 Washington Street, Columbia, CA 95310</u>. State Parks is looking for input on businesses and services that the public would like at the park.

One of the previous concession contracts has been vacated after the concessionaire decided to waive their option to extend for an additional five years and has given their 30 day notice. The other concession has been vacant for two years.

Columbia is distinguished by having the largest collection of Gold Rush-era structures in California. Through concessions, much of the town's business district has been re-created, offering historic-style stores, saloons, restaurants, and hotels. Recent visitor attendance reports indicate Columbia SHP attracts an average of 497,000 visitors each year.

This meeting is to solicit public input and ideas prior to completion of Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the operation of the retail concessions at two separate locations within Columbia SHP. For further information contact Peggy Harwell, Calaveras Sector Concessions Specialist at (209) 536-2917, email <a href="mailto:pharwell@parks.ca.gov">pharwell@parks.ca.gov</a> or Teresa Montijo at (916) 653-4574, email <a href="mailto:tmontijo@parks.ca.gov">tmontijo@parks.ca.gov</a> in the Concessions and Reservations Office.

California State Parks welcomes all visitors. If members of your group have special needs,



please contact us in advance to arrange.

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#### California State Parks Mission

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

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